CLAIMS

1. A method of managing processing resources in a mobile radio system, in which a first entity manages radio resources and corresponding processing resources, the latter being provided in a second entity separate from the first entity, in which method:

- the second entity signals to the first entity its global processing capacity, or capacity credit, and the consumption law, or quantity of said global processing capacity, or cost, for different spreading factor values,

- the first entity updates the capacity credit on the basis of the consumption law, and

- in the case of multicode transmission using N spreading codes, said updating is effected on the basis of the cost for at least one of the N spreading codes.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the cost for the N codes corresponds to the sum of the costs for each of the N codes.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the cost for the N codes is determined from the codes for one code.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the cost for the N codes corresponds to the cost for the minimum spreading factor code.

5. A mobile radio system for implementing a method according to claim 1, in which system:

- the first entity includes, in the case of multicode transmission, means using N spreading codes to effect said updating on the basis of the cost for at least one of the N spreading codes.

6. A base station controller for a mobile radio system for implementing a method according to claim 1, said base station controller including, in the case of multicode

transmission:

- means for using N spreading codes to effect said updating on the basis of the cost for at least one of the N spreading codes.

7. A load control and/or call admission control method for use in a mobile radio system in which a first entity manages radio resources and corresponding processing resources, the latter being provided in a second entity separate from the first entity, in which method:

- the second entity signals to the first entity its global processing capacity, or capacity credit, and the consumption law, or quantity of said global processing capacity, or cost, as a function of the necessary resources,

- the first entity updates the capacity credit on the basis of the consumption law, and

- if the capacity credit in the uplink and/or downlink direction falls below a given first threshold, any new call is rejected until the capacity credit is again above a given second threshold greater than or equal to the first threshold.

8. A mobile radio system for implementing a method according to claim 7, in which system:

- the first entity includes means for rejecting any new call if the uplink and/or downlink capacity credit falls below a given first threshold until the capacity credit is again above a given second threshold greater than or equal to the first threshold.

9. A system according to claim 8, wherein said first entity is a base station controller.

10. A system according to claim 8, wherein said second entity is a base station.

11. A base station controller for a mobile radio communication system for implementing a method according to claim 7, said base station controller including:

- means for rejecting any new call if the uplink and/or downlink capacity credit falls below a given first threshold until the capacity credit is again above a given second threshold greater than or equal to the first threshold.

12. A load control and/or call admission control method in a mobile radio system in which a first entity manages radio resources and corresponding processing resources, the latter being provided in a second entity separate from the first entity, in which method:

- the second entity signals to the first entity its global processing capacity, or capacity credit, and the consumption law, or quantity of said global processing capacity, or cost, as a function of the resources necessary,

- the first entity updates the capacity credit on the basis of the consumption law, and

- an overload control procedure is initiated if the capacity credit falls below a given threshold.

13. A mobile radio communication system for implementing a method according to claim 12, in which system:

- the first entity includes means for initiating an overload control procedure if the capacity credit falls below a given threshold.

14. A system according to claim 13, wherein said first entity is a base station controller.

15. A system according to claim 13, wherein said second entity is a base station.

16. A base station controller for a mobile radio system

for implementing a method according to claim 12, said base station controller including:

- means for initiating an overload control procedure if the capacity credit falls below a given threshold.